

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 EB-11

TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-20 L-03 RSR-01 /113 W

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R 221958 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4485

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (R E F E R E N C E B) C O R R E C T I O N T O R E A D
MVD 792 VICE 1548)

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OTRA, EFIN, UY

SUBJ: SHIPMENT OF URUGUAYAN GOLD FROM U. S.

REF: A) MVD 1340 B) MVD 792

1. GOU ANNOUNCED MAY 21 THAT IT WOULD REPATRIATE 300,000 OUNCES OF GOLD CURRENTLY HELD IN THE UNITED STATES. GOLD IS TO BE SHIPPED TO URUGUAY ON THE BOEING 737 OWNED BY THE URUGUAYAN NATIONAL AIRLINE, PLUNA. PLANE IS TO FLY TO NEW YORK WEEK OF MAY 27 TO RECEIVE GOLD.

2. GOLD PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN PLEDGED AGAINST LOANS TO GOU BY U. S. BANKS BUT WAS REDEEMED DURING 1972 WITH PROCEEDS FROM URUGUAYAN FREE- MARKET GOLD SALES (REF B). REPATRIATION OF GOLD SERVES LITTLE PRACTICAL PURPOSE AND APPEARS TO BE MAINLY PUBLICITY STUNT AIMED AT JUSTIFYING THE FREE MARKET GOLD SALES, WHICH WERE CRITICIZED HERE BY SOME SECTORS.

3. GOU HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM EMBASSY CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FLIGHT. WE HAVE BEEN AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WHILE EMPHASIZING NEED FOR GOU TO DO MOST OF WORK THROUGH EMBASSY
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IN WASHINGTON. PLANNING OF OPERATION APPARENTLY STILL IN EARLY
STAGE IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE URUGUAYAN MILITARY APPEARS TO
ATTACH TO THIS PROJECT , WE REQUEST THAT DEPARTMENT BE RESPONSIVE
TO ANY URUGUAYAN REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE WITHIN REASON.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EFIN, OTRA, UY
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SECSTATE WASHDC
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